



Los Angeles County  
Department of Regional Planning

*Planning for the Challenges Ahead*



September 19, 2006

James E. Hartl, AICP  
Director of Planning

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**HEARING ON AMENDMENTS TO THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY  
AREA PLAN AND THE ANTELOPE VALLEY AREAWIDE GENERAL  
PLAN, PLAN AMENDMENT NO. 2006-00001-(5), RELATING TO THE  
ADOPTION OF REVISED TRAILS MAPS  
(FIFTH SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT) (3-VOTES)**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD, AFTER THE PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Consider the attached Negative Declaration together with any comments received during the public review process, find on the basis of the whole record before the Board that there is no substantial evidence that the project will have a significant effect on the environment, find that the Negative Declaration reflects the independent judgment and analysis of the Board, and adopt the Negative Declaration;
2. Approve the recommendation of the Regional Planning Commission to adopt Plan Amendment No. 2006-00001-(5), amending the Trails Maps in the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan and the Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan, pursuant to the authority granted to the County by the State of California in Article 6 of Chapter 3 of Division 1 of Title 7 of the Government Code (commencing with Section 65350);
3. Adopt Plan Amendment No. 2006-00001-(5), previously approved as to form by County Counsel, to amend the Trails Maps in the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan and the Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan as recommended by the Regional Planning Commission, and determine that it is compatible with and supportive of the goals and policies of the Los Angeles County General Plan and the County's Strategic Plan; and
4. Find that adoption of the proposed Plan Amendment is *de minimus* in its effect on fish and wildlife resources and authorize the Director of Planning to complete and file a Certificate of Fee Exemption for this project.

### **PURPOSE OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The proposed Plan Amendment was prepared by the Department of Parks and Recreation in response to concerns over the preservation of historic trails in rapidly growing northern Los Angeles County. The Department of Regional Planning was asked to process the Plan Amendment for adoption by the Board of Supervisors.

The proposed Plan Amendment would add several trail routes to those already depicted in the currently adopted Trails Maps in the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan and the Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan. These trail routes have been utilized for decades but were never formally included in previous Trails Maps.

### **JUSTIFICATION**

The communities of northern Los Angeles County have long been known for their suburban and rural lifestyle, which stresses the importance of adequate provision of recreational facilities such as multi-purpose trails appropriate for hiking, bike riding, and equestrian use. As growth continues to transform the region, new development must accommodate trail routes that have been utilized by previous generations to ensure that future generations are able to enjoy them as well.

The proposed Plan Amendment is the result of extensive public outreach conducted by the Department of Parks and Recreation. The new trail routes being proposed were identified by the Santa Clarita Valley Trails Advisory Committee (SCVTAC), which includes representatives from hiking groups, mountain bike groups, equestrian groups, other local community groups, land owners and developers, the Angeles National Forest, California State Parks, the City of Santa Clarita, and the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.

The proposed Plan Amendment is consistent with current County policy. The Open Space Element of the Countywide General Plan promotes the development of a system of equestrian and hiking trails to be linked with recreational facilities where possible, and both the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan and Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan contain policies that promote the implementation of Trails Plans that provide for the dedication, construction, and maintenance of regional trails systems for hiking and equestrian use.

Decision-making bodies, including the Regional Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors, will retain discretion in determining the most appropriate location for trails in future development projects. The revised Trails Maps proposed in this Plan Amendment will remain advisory in nature, serving to guide decision-making bodies in implementing County policy.

### **IMPLEMENTATION OF COUNTYWIDE STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS**

The proposed Plan Amendment promotes Goal 1 of the County's Strategic Plan pertaining to "Service Excellence" through development of revised Trails Maps using Global Positioning System (GPS) and Geographic Information System (GIS) technologies, allowing for the creation of precise, detailed maps. The revised maps will assist property owners who wish to design appropriate developments on land traversed by one or more trail routes.

The proposed Plan Amendment promotes Goal 5 of the County's Strategic Plan pertaining to "Children and Families' Well-Being" by enhancing the quality-of-life for residents of the suburban and rural communities in northern Los Angeles County. Continued provision of recreational facilities such as multi-use trails encourages physical activity that promotes the health and social and emotional well-being of children and families.

The proposed Plan Amendment promotes Goal 6 of the County's Strategic Plan pertaining to "Community Services" by providing recreational facilities tailored to the needs of the suburban and rural communities in northern Los Angeles County. The revised Trails Maps were prepared in response to identified community needs through a public process involving a variety of stakeholders.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Implementation of the proposed Plan Amendment will not result in any significant new costs to the Department of Regional Planning, the Department of Parks and Recreation, or other County departments. Funding mechanisms for the construction and maintenance of trails will be developed when specific development proposals are brought before the Regional Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors.

### **FINANCING**

The proposed Plan Amendment will not result in additional net County costs and therefore a request for financing is not being made at this time.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

Article 6 of Chapter 3 of Division 1 of Title 7 of the Government Code of the State of California (commencing with Section 65350) provides for adoption of amendments to County General Plans. The proposed Plan Amendment is compatible with the Los Angeles County General Plan in that it promotes the development of a system of equestrian and hiking trails to be linked with recreational facilities where possible.

The Regional Planning Commission conducted a public hearing regarding the proposed Plan Amendment on May 24, 2006. The Commission heard testimony from eight individuals in support of the Plan Amendment and ten testifiers who raised concerns over the proposed Plan Amendment's effect on their ability to develop their landholdings in the future.

A public hearing by the Board of Supervisors is required to amend the General Plan pursuant to Section 65355 of the Government Code of the State of California. Notice of hearing must be given pursuant to the requirements set forth in Sections 6061, 65090, and 65094 of same.

An amendment to the General Plan must be adopted by resolution and such resolution must be adopted by at least three affirmative votes of the members of your Board, as set forth in Section 65356 of the Government Code of the State of California.

#### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

Approval of the proposed Plan Amendment will not significantly impact County services.

#### **EXEMPTION/ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS**

The proposed Plan Amendment constitutes a regulatory action that could have a significant effect on the environment. The attached Initial Study, prepared by the Department of Parks and Recreation, shows that there is no substantial evidence, in light of the whole record before your Board, that the adoption of the proposed Plan Amendment will have a significant effect on the environment. Therefore, in accordance with Section 15070 of the State CEQA guidelines, a Negative Declaration was prepared.

A copy of the proposed Negative Declaration was transmitted to two public libraries for public review. In addition, public notice was published in four newspapers of general circulation pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21092. Two comments on the proposed Negative Declaration were received during the public review period.

Based on the attached Negative Declaration, adoption of the proposed Plan Amendment will not have a significant effect on the environment.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
September 19, 2006

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Respectfully submitted,

DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL PLANNING

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James E. Hartl', is written over the typed name.

James E. Hartl, AICP  
Acting Director of Planning

JEH:mwg

Attachments:

1. Project Summary
2. Summary of Regional Planning Commission Proceedings
3. Resolution of the Regional Planning Commission
4. Resolution of the Board of Supervisors
5. Recommended Plan Amendment (CD-ROM)
6. Environmental Document
7. Legal Notice of Board Hearing
8. List of Persons to be Notified

c: Chief Administrative Officer  
County Counsel  
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors  
Auditor - Controller

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL PLANNING**

**PROJECT SUMMARY**

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Proposed amendments to the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan and the Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan, Plan Amendment No. 2006-00001-(5), relating to the adoption of revised trails maps.

**REQUEST:** Adoption of the proposed amendments to the Area Plans stated above.

**LOCATION:** Santa Clarita Valley and Antelope Valley

**APPLICANT OR SOURCE:** County Department of Parks and Recreation

**STAFF CONTACT:** Mr. Mitch Glaser at (213) 974-6476

**RPC MEETING DATES:** May 24, 2006 and August 23, 2006

**RPC RECOMMENDATION:** Board public hearing to consider adoption of the proposed amendments to the two Area Plans.

**MEMBERS VOTING AYE:** Commissioners Valadez, Bellamy, Helsley and Rew (August 23, 2006)

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Commissioner Modugno (August 23, 2006)

**KEY ISSUES:** The revised Trails Maps for the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan and the Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan replace previous versions - the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan Trails Map was last revised in 1990, and the Trails Map in the Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan was last revised in 1996.

The Department of Parks and Recreation developed the revised Trails Maps in a collaborative process involving numerous stakeholder groups under the leadership of the Santa Clarita Valley Trails Advisory Council (SCVTAC). Global Positioning System (GPS) and Geographical Information System (GIS) technologies were employed, allowing for precise, detailed maps.

Adopted trail routes *and* newly proposed trail routes are depicted in the two Area Plans for adoption in this Plan Amendment.

Some property owners objected to the placement of new trail routes on their landholdings as an infringement on their property rights.

**MAJOR POINTS FOR:**

The revised Trails Plans are far more accurate than the 1990 and 1996 Trails Plan versions in depicting the locations of adopted and proposed trails due to the use of modern mapping technologies (GIS and GPS).

The newly mapped trails promote connectivity among adopted existing trails and newly proposed trails for the communities of northern Los Angeles County. These communities have long been known for their suburban and rural lifestyle, which stressed the importance of adequate provision of recreational facilities such as multi-purpose trails appropriate for hiking, bike riding, and equestrian use.

The newly revised Trails Maps continue to allow decision-making bodies, including the RPC and the Board of Supervisors, to retain discretion in determining the most appropriate location for trails in future development projects.

**MAJOR POINTS AGAINST:**

None

**REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
PUBLIC HEARING PROCEEDINGS  
PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY AREA PLAN AND  
THE ANTELOPE VALLEY AREAWIDE GENERAL PLAN  
REVISED TRAILS PLAN MAPS**

**May 24, 2006**

The Commission conducted a public hearing to consider the proposed plan amendments to the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan and the Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan. The proposed amendments represent revisions to the 1990 Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan Trails Map and the 1996 Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan Trails Map.

During the hearing, the staff asked the Commission to consider the revised Trails Plan Maps as replacements for the current 8.5X11 sized maps in use by the two Area plans. Advanced mapping technologies, that involved using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Global Positioning Systems (GPS), enhanced staff's ability to pinpoint exact locations of trails, and therefore staff's ability to create the newly improved Trails Maps. Both adopted trails and newly proposed trails that promote connectivity throughout the Santa Clarita Valley and Antelope Valley were included in the revised maps.

The Department of Parks and Recreation spoke in support of the Trails Plan Amendment and gave significant background regarding the several year long collaborative mapping process involving the community members of SCVTAC (Santa Clarita Valley Trails Advisory Council).

Eight members of the public spoke in support of the Plan Amendment including representatives from SCVTAC as well as other supportive community members hailing from Agua Dulce, Acton, and Stevenson Ranch. Ten members of the public spoke in opposition. The opposition raised concerns over the proposed Plan Amendment's effect on their ability to develop landholdings in the future.

The Commission closed the public hearing and directed staff to make minor technical refinements to the Maps as well as add a disclaimer to the legend noting the Trails Plan's purpose, then return to the Commission with the proposed amendments as consent items.

**August 23, 2006**

The Commission reviewed the newly revised Trails Plan Maps and recommended that the proposed amendments be approved for Board of Supervisors review. Commissions Valadez, Bellamy, Helsley, and Rew voted aye. Commissioner Modugno was not present.



**A RESOLUTION OF THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
RELATING TO PLAN AMENDMENT CASE NO. 200600001-(5) AMENDING THE  
TRAILS PLAN OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY AREA PLAN AND THE TRAILS  
PLAN OF THE ANTELOPE VALLEY AREAWIDE GENERAL PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, Article 6 of Chapter 3 of Division 1 of Title 7 of the Government Code of the State of California (commencing with Section 65350) provides for adoption of amendments to County General Plans; and

**WHEREAS**, the Regional Planning Commission of the County of Los Angeles conducted a public hearing regarding Plan Amendment Case No. 200600001-(5) on May 24, 2006; and

**WHEREAS**, the Regional Planning Commission finds as follows:

1. The Trails Section of the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan (policies 6.1 through 6.6) promotes the implementation of a Trails Plan for the Valley, which includes the dedication, construction, and maintenance of a regional trails system for hiking and equestrian use. The currently adopted Trails Map is on page 62 of the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan.
2. The Trails Plan Section of the Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan (policies 160 through 167) promotes the implementation of a Trails Plan for the Antelope Valley, which includes the dedication, construction, and maintenance of a regional trails system for hiking and equestrian use. The currently adopted Trails Map is on the page following page V-20 of the Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan.
3. The Trails Map in the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan was last revised in 1990 and the Trails Map in the Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan was last revised in 1996. Northern Los Angeles County has experienced rapid growth in the interceding years, raising concerns over the preservation of trails in the area and creating a need for the adoption of revised Trails Maps.
4. Over the course of recent years, the Santa Clarita Valley Trails Advisory Council (SCVTAC) has worked closely with the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) to update the Trails Maps for the Santa Clarita Valley and the southwestern portion of the Antelope Valley. The membership of SCVTAC includes representatives from the Angeles National Forest, California State Parks, the City of Santa Clarita, the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, local community groups, and land owners and developers.

5. In order to identify historic trails that have been utilized for decades, the majority of which are located in undeveloped areas and traverse vacant land, several members of SCVTAC rode, hiked, and/or drove along the approximate alignments of those trails with a Global Positioning System (GPS) device. After months of such field work by members of SCVTAC, DPR staff plotted the location of 500 miles of historic trails on a map using Geographic Information System (GIS) technology.
6. DPR staff worked with SCVTAC to refine the 500 mile historical trail network into a 191 mile system of major connector trails that would link the communities of northern Los Angeles County, tie into existing trails in the Angeles National Forest, and connect to existing trails in the cities of Palmdale and Santa Clarita and the County of Los Angeles. This system is large enough to provide adequate connectivity while small enough to enable DPR to effectively manage its construction and ongoing maintenance.
7. Several trails depicted in the currently adopted Trails Maps in the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan and the Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan were not included in the revised Trails Maps created by DPR and SCVTAC. DPR staff determined that these routes, most of which were located in the Angeles National Forest, are no longer part of the system.
8. Numerous community meetings were held by DPR in 2005 to present the revised Trails Maps for the Santa Clarita Valley and the southwestern portion of the Antelope Valley and to solicit input from local residents and property owners. Specifically, meetings were held in Castaic on September 21, 2005; in Acton on October 3, 2005; in Stevenson Ranch on October 5, 2005; in Santa Clarita on October 6, 2005; in Agua Dulce on October 12, 2005, and at William Hart Regional Park on October 20, 2005.
9. During the public hearing on May 24, 2006, the Commission heard a presentation from staff as well as testimony from SCVTAC, DPR, and the public.
10. 334 comment letters and one petition were submitted to the Commission. 316 letters and the one petition (containing the names of 207 individuals) were in support of the Plan Amendment. 16 letters were in opposition to the Plan Amendment, with concerns related to the location of specific trails and private property rights in general. The two remaining letters contained general comments from Caltrans and the California Public Utilities Commission.

11. 19 people testified at the public hearing: one representing the applicant (DPR), eight in support of the Plan Amendment, and 10 in opposition to the Plan Amendment. Opponents were concerned with the location of specific trails that traversed their property holdings.
12. On May 24, 2006, the Commission closed the public hearing and instructed staff to create revised Trails Maps for the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan and the Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan incorporating the system of major connector trails developed by DPR and SCVTAC as well as findings reflecting the Regional Planning Commission's intent to recommend to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approval of Plan Amendment Case No. 200600001-(5).
13. An Initial Study was prepared for the proposed Plan Amendment in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act, which demonstrates that there is no substantial evidence that the Plan Amendment will have a significant effect on the environment. Based on the Initial Study, DPR has prepared a related Negative Declaration for this project.
14. The location of the documents and other materials constituting the record of proceedings upon which the Commission's decision is based in this matter is the Department of Regional Planning, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor, Hall of Records, 320 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California 90012. The custodian of such documents and materials shall be the Section Head of the Countywide Studies Section.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Regional Planning Commission recommends that the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors:

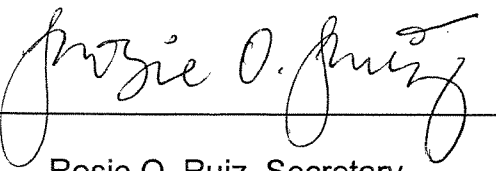
1. Hold a public hearing to consider Plan Amendment Case No. 200600001-(5); and
2. Certify that the Negative Declaration has been completed in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act, and the State and County Guidelines related thereto, and reflects the independent judgment of the Board of Supervisors; and
3. Approve the Negative Declaration prepared for the project and certify that it has reviewed and considered the information contained therein; and
4. Find that the recommended Plan Amendment is consistent with the goals, policies, and programs of the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan and the Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan ; and

**PLAN AMENDMENT CASE NO. 200600001-(5)**  
**Resolution**

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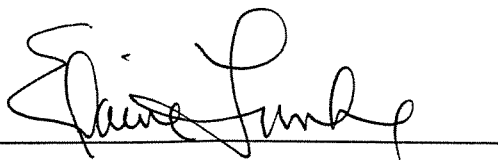
5. Adopt Plan Amendment Case No. 200600001-(5).

I hereby certify that the foregoing was adopted by a majority of the voting members of the Regional Planning Commission of the County of Los Angeles on August 23, 2006.

By   
Rosie O. Ruiz, Secretary  
County of Los Angeles  
Regional Planning Commission

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL

By   
ELAINE LEMKE  
Principal Deputy County Counsel  
Public Works Division

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
RELATING TO THE ADOPTION OF A PLAN AMENDMENT TO THE TRAILS  
SECTION OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY AREA PLAN AND THE TRAILS PLAN  
SECTION OF THE ANTELOPE VALLEY AREAWIDE GENERAL PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, Article 6 of Chapter 3 of Division 1 of Title 7 of the Government Code of the State of California (commencing with Section 65350) provides for adoption of amendments to the county general plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Regional Planning Commission held a duly noticed public hearing on May 24, 2006 to receive public testimony and discuss the matter of Plan Amendment No. 2006-00001-(5) to amend the trails maps for the Trails Section of the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan and the Trails Plan Section of the Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Regional Planning Commission recommended approval of said Plan Amendment No. 2006-00001-(5) on August 23, 2006; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors also held a public hearing on Plan Amendment No. 2006-00001-(5) on \_\_\_\_\_; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors has duly considered the recommendation of the Regional Planning Commission, public testimony, the recommendations and the testimony of the Regional Planning Department staff, and the Negative Declaration, including the documentation within each file; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors finds as follows:

1. The Trails Section of the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan (policies 6.1 through 6.6) promotes the implementation of a Trails Plan for the Valley, which includes the dedication, construction, and maintenance of a regional trails system for hiking and equestrian use. The currently adopted Trails Map is on page 62 of the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan.
2. The Trails Plan Section of the Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan (policies 160 through 167) promotes the implementation of a Trails Plan for the Antelope Valley, which includes the dedication, construction, and maintenance of a regional trails system for hiking and equestrian use. The currently adopted Trails Map is on the page following page V-20 of the Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan.
3. The Trails Map in the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan was last revised in 1990 and the Trails Map in the Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan was last revised in 1996. Northern Los Angeles County has experienced rapid growth

in the interceding years, raising concerns over the preservation of trails in the area and creating a need for the adoption of revised Trails Maps.

4. Over the course of recent years, the Santa Clarita Valley Trails Advisory Council (SCVTAC) has worked closely with the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) to update the Trails Maps for the Santa Clarita Valley and the southwestern portion of the Antelope Valley. The membership of SCVTAC includes representatives from the Angeles National Forest, California State Parks, the City of Santa Clarita, the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, local community groups, and land owners and developers.
5. In order to identify historic trails that have been utilized for decades, the majority of which are located in undeveloped areas and traverse vacant land, several members of SCVTAC rode, hiked, and/or drove along the approximate alignments of those trails with a Global Positioning System (GPS) device. After months of such field work by members of SCVTAC, DPR staff plotted the location of 500 miles of historic trails on a map using Geographic Information System (GIS) technology.
6. DPR staff worked with SCVTAC to refine the 500 mile historical trail network into a 191 mile system of major connector trails that would link the unincorporated communities of northern Los Angeles County, tie into existing trails in the Angeles National Forest, and connect to existing trails in the cities of Palmdale and Santa Clarita. The system is large enough to provide adequate connectivity while small enough to enable DPR to effectively manage its construction and ongoing maintenance.
7. Several trails depicted in the currently adopted Trails Maps in the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan and the Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan were not included in the revised Trails Maps created by DPR and SCVTAC. DPR staff determined that these routes, most of which were located in the Angeles National Forest, are no longer part of the system.
8. Numerous community meetings were held by DPR in 2005 to present the revised Trails Maps for the Santa Clarita Valley and the southwestern portion of the Antelope Valley and to solicit input from local residents and property owners. Specifically, meetings were held in Castaic on September 21, 2005; in Acton on October 3, 2005; in Stevenson Ranch on October 5, 2005; in Santa Clarita on October 6, 2005; in Agua Dulce on October 12, 2005, and at William Hart Regional Park on October 20, 2005.
9. An Initial Study was prepared for the proposed Plan Amendment pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the environmental guidelines and reporting procedures of the County of Los Angeles. The Initial

Study demonstrates that there is no substantial evidence that the Plan Amendment will have a significant effect on the environment.

10. A Negative Declaration was prepared for the proposed Plan Amendment in compliance with CEQA, referenced as State Clearinghouse No. 2006041151, and circulated for public comment for a 30-day review period from April 24, 2006 to May 24, 2006.
11. Adoption of the proposed Plan Amendment is consistent with the goals, policies, and programs of the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan and the Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT** the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles:

1. Considers the Negative Declaration that was prepared for Plan Amendment No. 2006-00001-(5) together with any comments received during the public review process, certifies that it has been completed in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act and the State and County guidelines related thereto, finds on the basis of the whole record before it that there is no substantial evidence that the project will have a significant effect on the environment and that the Negative Declaration reflects the independent judgment and analysis of the County, and adopts the Negative Declaration;
2. Finds that the proposed Plan Amendment is consistent with the goals, policies, and programs of the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan and the Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan;
3. Adopts Plan Amendment No. 2006-00001-(5) amending the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan Trails Map and the Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan Trails Map, as recommended by the Regional Planning Commission.

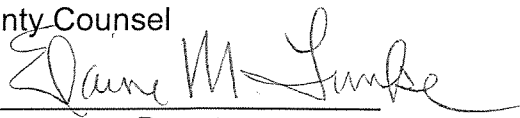
The foregoing resolution was on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2006,  
adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles and ex officio the  
governing body of all other special assessment and taxing districts, agencies and  
authorities for which said Board also acts.

SACHI A. HAMAI, Executive Officer  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
The County of Los Angeles

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM

RAYMOND G. FORTNER, JR.  
County Counsel

By  \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
510 SOUTH VERMONT AVENUE  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90020

**NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

PROJECT NUMBER: RPA T200600001

1. DESCRIPTION: The proposed Plan Amendment would amend the Trails Plan maps in the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan and the Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan.
2. LOCATION: Santa Clarita Valley and Antelope Valley
3. PROPONENT: County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation
4. FINDINGS OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS:  
BASED ON THE INITIAL STUDY, IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT THE PROJECT WILL NOT HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT.
5. THE LOCATION AND CUSTODIAN OF THE RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS ON WHICH ADOPTION OF THIS NEGATIVE DECLARATION IS BASED IS:  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION, 510 SOUTH VERMONT AVENUE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90020.

PREPARED BY: Joan Rupert  
Section Head, Environmental

DATE: 4/20/2006

**STAFF USE ONLY**

PROJECT NUMBER: RPAT200600001

CASES: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**\*\*\*\* INITIAL STUDY \*\*\*\***  
**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

GENERAL INFORMATION

I.A. Map Date: April 18, 2006 Staff Member: Joan Rupert – Parks Dept.

Thomas Guide: Multiple pages USGS Quad: Multiple maps

Location: Santa Clarita Valley and Antelope Valley, Los Angeles County

Description of Project: Santa Clarita Valley (SCV) - The 2006 Santa Clarita Valley Trails Update Plan is comprised of approximately 140 miles of riding and hiking trails alignment within the greater Santa Clarita Valley setting. The communities of Castaic, West Ranch, and Agua Dulce also have identified many trails within their communities and the Trails Plan proposes to link with as many of these community trails as possible. The Angeles National Forest also contains a number of trails and this Trails Plan recognizes the Federal trails and will connect to many of these established trails. The typical trail is projected to be an 8 to 12 foot wide trail contained within a 20 foot wide easement. In many places, the proposed trails would parallel existing County road rights of way. The rationale for the placement of trails adjacent to the County roads is that these are the traditional locations for riding and hiking in the rural and developing areas. It is understood that the County road right of way will not accommodate the riding and hiking trail but in order to maintain the traditional paths of travel, the Backbone Trails will be placed adjacent to the road rights of way.

Antelope Valley – (AV) The proposed trail system is the Areawide part of the County General Plan Trails Plan and comprises approximately 50 miles of riding and hiking trails. These new trails will connect to existing community trails in the town of Acton, southwestern portions of the City of Palmdale and other non-urban communities in the Antelope Valley of Los Angeles County. This new trails system will connect to existing trails that have been developed in the adjacent Angeles National Forest. The typical trail is projected to be an 8 to 12 foot wide trail contained within a 20 foot wide easement. In many places, the proposed trails would parallel existing County road rights-of-way. The rationale for the placement of trails adjacent to the County roads is that this is the traditional location for riding and hiking trails in the rural and developing areas of the County. This Trails Plan does not propose any trails within the County's road right-of-way locations. The trails proposed near the County roads provide maximum visibility and ease of access from existing homes and ranches in the study area.

Gross Area: SCV- Approximately 140 miles of trails; AV-Approximately 50 miles of trails

Environmental Setting: Santa Clarita Valley - The area encompassing the Santa Clarita Valley Trails Plan update study is approximately 275 square miles. The western limit of the study area is the Ventura County line and the eastern limit of the study area is the western edge of the community of Acton. The other limits of the Santa Clarita Valley Backbone Trails study area are established by the Angeles National Forest to the north and to the south of the Valley. The study area contains several trails that connect to the national forest trails located within the Angeles National Forest and the Los Padres National Forest. A few of these trails also connect to the Pacific Crest Trail, a national scenic trail that crosses the valley near the Vasquez Rocks Regional County Park. In addition to the-forestland, the resources of the Santa Clarita Valley include the Santa Clara and

*Santa Clara Rivers, mountain canyons, oak woodland and oak savannah areas, mountainous terrain and Significant Ecological Areas (SEA).*

*Antelope Valley - The area covered by this portion of the Antelope Valley Trails Plan update study is approximately 200 square miles. The Antelope Valley includes a portion of the mountainous region of northwest-central Los Angeles County. The Antelope Valley extends into the Upper Santa Clara River Watershed as far west as the western edge of the community of Acton. This Trails Plan study area ends at the southwestern edge of the City of Palmdale. The study area is also bounded on the north and south by separate portions of the Angeles National Forest. The area is primarily chaparral-covered hillsides but some of the trails enter the mountainous areas adjacent to the Angeles National Forest and the southwestern Antelope Valley. The study area is considered high desert climate. Other vegetation consists of sagebrush, junipers and some riparian communities in the valley bottoms.*

Zoning: Various

General Plan: Land Use Policy, Los Angeles County 1980 General Plan

Community/Area Wide Plan: Santa Clarita Valley and Antelope Valley Area Wide Plans

**Major projects in area:**

<u>Project Number</u>	<u>Description &amp; Status</u>
<hr/>	<hr/>
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NOTE: For EIRs, above projects are not sufficient for cumulative analysis.

## REVIEWING AGENCIES

### Responsible Agencies

- ☒ None
- ☐ Regional Water Quality Control Board
- ☐ Los Angeles Region
- ☐ Lahontan Region
- ☐ Coastal Commission
- ☐ Army Corps of Engineers
- ☐ \_\_\_\_\_

### Trustee Agencies

- ☒ None
- ☐ State Fish and Game
- ☐ State Parks
- ☐ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ \_\_\_\_\_

### Special Reviewing Agencies

- ☐ None
- ☐ Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
- ☐ National Parks
- ☒ National Forest
- ☐ Edwards Air Force Base
- ☐ Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mtns.
- ☒ City of Palmdale
- ☒ Acton Town Council
- ☒ City of Santa Clarita
- ☒ Agua Dulce Town Council
- ☒ Castaic Town Council
- ☐ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ \_\_\_\_\_

### Regional Significance

- ☒ None
- ☐ SCAG Criteria
- ☐ Air Quality
- ☐ Water Resources
- ☐ Santa Monica Mtns Area
- ☐ \_\_\_\_\_

### County Reviewing Agencies

- ☐ Subdivision Committee
- ☐ DPW: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Health Services: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ \_\_\_\_\_

## IMPACT ANALYSIS MATRIX

		ANALYSIS SUMMARY (See individual pages for details)			
CATEGORY	FACTOR	Pg	Less than Significant Impact/No Impact		
			Less than Significant Impact with Project Mitigation		Potentially Significant Impact
			Potential Concern		
HAZARDS	1. Geotechnical	6	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	2. Flood	7	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	3. Fire	8	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	4. Noise	9	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
RESOURCES	1. Water Quality	10	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	2. Air Quality	11	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	3. Biota	12	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	4. Cultural Resources	13	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	5. Mineral Resources	14	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	6. Agriculture Resources	15	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	7. Visual Qualities	16	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SERVICES	1. Traffic/Access	17	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	2. Sewage Disposal	18	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	3. Education	19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	4. Fire/Sheriff	20	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	5. Utilities	21	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OTHER	1. General	22	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	2. Environmental Safety	23	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	3. Land Use	24	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	4. Pop./Hous./Emp./Rec.	25	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Mandatory Findings	26	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### DEVELOPMENT MONITORING SYSTEM (DMS) \*

As required by the Los Angeles County General Plan, DMS shall be employed in the Initial Study phase of the environmental review procedure as prescribed by state law.

1. Development Policy Map Designation: \_\_\_\_\_
2. ☒ Yes ☐ No Is the project located in the Antelope Valley, East San Gabriel Valley, Malibu/Santa Monica Mountains or Santa Clarita Valley planning area?
3. ☐ Yes ☒ No Is the project at urban density and located within, or proposes a plan amendment to an urban expansion designation?

If both of the above questions are answered "yes", the project is subject to a County DMS analysis.

☐ Check if DMS printout generated (attached)

Date of printout: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check if DMS overview worksheet completed (attached)

\*EIRs and/or staff reports shall utilize the most current DMS information available.

## Environmental Finding:

FINAL DETERMINATION: On the basis of this Initial Study, the Department of Regional Planning finds that this project qualifies for the following environmental document:

☒ NEGATIVE DECLARATION, inasmuch as the proposed project will not have a significant effect on the environment.

An Initial Study was prepared on this project in compliance with the State CEQA Guidelines and the environmental reporting procedures of the County of Los Angeles. It was determined that this project will not exceed the established threshold criteria for any environmental/service factor and, as a result, will not have a significant effect on the physical environment.

☐ MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION, inasmuch as the changes required for the project will reduce impacts to insignificant levels (see attached discussion and/or conditions).

An Initial Study was prepared on this project in compliance with the State CEQA Guidelines and the environmental reporting procedures of the County of Los Angeles. It was originally determined that the proposed project may exceed established threshold criteria. The applicant has agreed to modification of the project so that it can now be determined that the project will not have a significant effect on the physical environment. The modification to mitigate this impact(s) is identified on the Project Changes/Conditions Form included as part of this Initial Study.

☐ ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT\*, inasmuch as there is substantial evidence that the project may have a significant impact due to factors listed above as "significant."

☐ At least one factor has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to legal standards, and has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on the attached sheets (see attached Form DRP/IA 101). The EIR is required to analyze only the factors not previously addressed.

Reviewed by: Joan Rupert Date: 4/20/2006

Approved by: Daryl Koutnik Date: 4/20/2006

☒ This proposed project is exempt from Fish and Game CEQA filling fees. There is no substantial evidence that the proposed project will have potential for an adverse effect on wildlife or the habitat upon which the wildlife depends. (Fish & Game Code 753.5).

☐ Determination appealed--see attached sheet.

\*NOTE: Findings for Environmental Impact Reports will be prepared as a separate document following the public hearing on the project.

## HAZARDS - 1. Geotechnical

### SETTING/IMPACTS

- Yes No Maybe
- a. ☐ ☐ ☒ Is the project site located in an active or potentially active fault zone, Seismic Hazards Zone, or Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone?  
SCV – San Andreas, Holzer AV-San Andreas and other fault zones known in area
- b. ☐ ☒ ☐ Is the project site located in an area containing a major landslide(s)?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- c. ☐ ☒ ☐ Is the project site located in an area having high slope instability?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- d. ☐ ☐ ☒ Is the project site subject to high subsidence, high groundwater level, liquefaction, or hydro compaction?  
Areas of potential liquefaction known in area
- e. ☐ ☒ ☐ Is the proposed project considered a sensitive use (school, hospital, public assembly site) located in close proximity to a significant geotechnical hazard?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- f. ☐ ☒ ☐ Will the project entail substantial grading and/or alteration of topography including slopes of more than 25%?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- g. ☐ ☒ ☐ Would the project be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- h. ☐ ☐ ☐ Other factors? \_\_\_\_\_

### STANDARD CODE REQUIREMENTS

☐ Building Ordinance No. 2225 C Sections 308B, 309, 310 and 311 and Chapters 29 and 70.

☐ MITIGATION MEASURES / ☒ OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

☐ Lot Size ☒ Project Design ☐ Approval of Geotechnical Report by DPW

The trail design and implementation will evaluate geologic factors at the time of trail dedication or construction. No trail construction is proposed at this time.

### CONCLUSION

Considering the above information, could the project have a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on, or be impacted by, **geotechnical** factors?

☐ Potentially significant ☐ Less than significant with project mitigation ☒ Less than significant/No impact

## HAZARDS - 2. Flood

### SETTING/IMPACTS

- Yes No Maybe
- a. ☐ ☐ ☒ Is a major drainage course, as identified on USGS quad sheets by a dashed line, located on the project site?  
Some blueline drainages are known in the area.
- b. ☐ ☒ ☐ Is the project site located within or does it contain a floodway, floodplain, or designated flood hazard zone?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- c. ☐ ☒ ☐ Is the project site located in or subject to high mudflow conditions?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- d. ☐ ☒ ☐ Could the project contribute or be subject to high erosion and debris deposition from run off?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- e. ☐ ☒ ☐ Would the project substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- f. ☐ ☐ ☐ Other factors (e.g., dam failure)? \_\_\_\_\_

### STANDARD CODE REQUIREMENTS

- ☐ Building Ordinance No. 2225 C Section 308A ☐ Ordinance No. 12,114 (Floodways)  
☐ Approval of Drainage Concept by DPW

### ☐ MITIGATION MEASURES / ☒ OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- ☐ Lot Size ☒ Project Design

Trail design and implementation will evaluate flood and erosion potential at the time of trail dedication or construction. No trail construction is proposed at this time.

### CONCLUSION

Considering the above information, could the project have a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on, or be impacted by **flood (hydrological)** factors?

- ☐ Potentially significant ☐ Less than significant with project mitigation ☒ Less than significant/No impact



### HAZARDS - 3. Fire

#### SETTING/IMPACTS

Yes No Maybe

- a. ☒ ☐ ☐ Is the project site located in a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (Fire Zone 4)?  
Much of the area is within Fire Zone 4
- b. ☐ ☒ ☐ Is the project site in a high fire hazard area and served by inadequate access due to lengths, widths, surface materials, turnarounds or grade?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- c. ☐ ☒ ☐ Does the project site have more than 75 dwelling units on a single access in a high fire hazard area? \_\_\_\_\_
- d. ☐ ☐ ☒ Is the project site located in an area having inadequate water and pressure to meet fire flow standards? There is little public water company service coverage
- e. ☐ ☒ ☐ Is the project site located in close proximity to potential dangerous fire hazard conditions/uses (such as refineries, flammables, explosives manufacturing)?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- f. ☐ ☒ ☐ Does the proposed use constitute a potentially dangerous fire hazard?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- g. ☐ ☐ ☐ Other factors? \_\_\_\_\_

#### STANDARD CODE REQUIREMENTS

- ☐ Water Ordinance No. 7834 ☐ Fire Ordinance No. 2947 ☐ Fire Regulation No. 8
- ☐ Fuel Modification/Landscape Plan

#### ☐ MITIGATION MEASURES / ☒ OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- ☒ Project Design ☐ Compatible Use

Project design will evaluate for fire hazard at the time of trail dedication or construction. No trail construction is proposed at this time.

#### CONCLUSION

Considering the above information, could the project have a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on, or be impacted by **fire hazard** factors?

- ☐ Potentially significant ☐ Less than significant with project mitigation ☒ Less than significant/No impact

## HAZARDS - 4. Noise

### SETTING/IMPACTS

- Yes No Maybe
- a. ☐ ☒ ☐ Is the project site located near a high noise source (airports, railroads, freeways, industry)?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☐ ☒ ☐ Is the proposed use considered sensitive (school, hospital, senior citizen facility) or are there other sensitive uses in close proximity?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- c. ☐ ☒ ☐ Could the project substantially increase ambient noise levels including those associated with special equipment (such as amplified sound systems) or parking areas associated with the project?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- d. ☐ ☒ ☐ Would the project result in a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels without the project?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- e. ☐ ☐ ☐ Other factors? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### STANDARD CODE REQUIREMENTS

- ☐ Noise Ordinance No. 11,778 ☐ Building Ordinance No. 2225--Chapter 35

### ☐ MITIGATION MEASURES / ☒ OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- ☐ Lot Size ☒ Project Design ☐ Compatible Use

Trail design will not likely generate any substantial increase in ambient noise.

### CONCLUSION

Considering the above information, could the project have a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on, or be adversely impacted by **noise**?

- ☐ Potentially significant ☐ Less than significant with project mitigation ☒ Less than significant/No impact

## RESOURCES - 1. Water Quality

### SETTING/IMPACTS

Yes No Maybe

- a. ☐ ☒ ☐ Is the project site located in an area having known water quality problems and proposing the use of individual water wells?

- b. ☐ ☒ ☐ Will the proposed project require the use of a private sewage disposal system?

- ☐ ☐ ☐ If the answer is yes, is the project site located in an area having known septic tank limitations due to high groundwater or other geotechnical limitations or is the project proposing on-site systems located in close proximity to a drainage course?

- c. ☐ ☒ ☐ Could the project's associated construction activities significantly impact the quality of groundwater and/or storm water runoff to the storm water conveyance system and/or receiving water bodies?

- d. ☐ ☒ ☐ Could the project's post-development activities potentially degrade the quality of storm water runoff and/or could post-development non-storm water discharges contribute potential pollutants to the storm water conveyance system and/or receiving bodies?

- e. ☐ ☐ ☐ Other factors? \_\_\_\_\_

### STANDARD CODE REQUIREMENTS

☐ Industrial Waste Permit ☐ Health Code Ordinance No. 7583, Chapter 5

☐ Plumbing Code Ordinance No. 2269 ☐ NPDES Permit Compliance (DPW)

☐ **MITIGATION MEASURES** / ☐ **OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

☐ Lot Size ☐ Project Design

### CONCLUSION

Considering the above information, could the project have a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on, or be impacted by, **water quality** problems?

☐ Potentially significant ☐ Less than significant with project mitigation ☒ Less than significant/No impact

## RESOURCES - 2. Air Quality

### SETTING/IMPACTS

- |    | Yes                      | No                                  | Maybe                    |  |
|----|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| a. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Will the proposed project exceed the State's criteria for regional significance (generally (a) 500 dwelling units for residential uses or (b) 40 gross acres, 650,000 square feet of floor area or 1,000 employees for nonresidential uses)?   |
| b. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Is the proposal considered a sensitive use (schools, hospitals, parks) and located near a freeway or heavy industrial use?   |
| c. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Will the project increase local emissions to a significant extent due to increased traffic congestion or use of a parking structure, or exceed AQMD thresholds of potential significance per Screening Tables of the CEQA Air Quality Handbook?  |
| d. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Will the project generate or is the site in close proximity to sources which create obnoxious odors, dust, and/or hazardous emissions?   |
| e. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Would the project conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?   |
| f. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Would the project violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?  |
| g. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Would the project result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)? |
| h. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other factors: _____   |

### STANDARD CODE REQUIREMENTS

☐ Health and Safety Code Section 40506

☐ MITIGATION MEASURES / ☐ OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

☐ Project Design

☐ Air Quality Report

### CONCLUSION

Considering the above information, could the project have a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on, or be impacted by, **air quality**?

☐ Potentially significant    ☐ Less than significant with project mitigation    ☒ Less than significant/No impact

### RESOURCES - 3. Biota

#### SETTING/IMPACTS

Yes No Maybe

- a. ☒ ☐ ☐ Is the project site located within a Significant Ecological Area (SEA), SEA Buffer, or coastal Sensitive Environmental Resource (ESHA, etc.), or is the site relatively undisturbed and natural?

(SCV) SEA No. 19 San Francisquito Cyn, SEA No. 23 Santa Clara River, SEA No. 20 Santa Susana Mountains; (AV) SEA No. 61 – Kentucky Springs

- b. ☐ ☒ ☐ Will grading, fire clearance, or flood related improvements remove substantial natural habitat areas?

- c. ☐ ☐ ☒ Is a major drainage course, as identified on USGS quad sheets by a blue, dashed line, located on the project site?

Blue line drainage course are known in the area.

- d. ☐ ☐ ☒ Does the project site contain a major riparian or other sensitive habitat (e.g., coastal sage scrub, oak woodland, sycamore riparian woodland, wetland, etc.)?

Oak woodlands and riparian vegetation are known in the area.

- e. ☐ ☐ ☒ Does the project site contain oak or other unique native trees (specify kinds of trees)?

Oaks and sycamore trees are known in the project area.

- f. ☐ ☐ ☒ Is the project site habitat for any known sensitive species (federal or state listed endangered, etc.)?

Unarmored threespine stickleback is known in the western portion of the project area

- g. ☐ ☐ ☐ Other factors (e.g., wildlife corridor, adjacent open space linkage)?

#### ☐ MITIGATION MEASURES / ☒ OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

☐ Lot Size ☒ Project Design ☐ Oak Tree Permit ☐ ERB/SEATAC Review

The trail design will consider potential impact on biological resources at the time of trail dedication or construction when the final trail alignment is determined.

#### CONCLUSION

Considering the above information, could the project have a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on **biotic resources**?

☐ Potentially significant ☐ Less than significant with project mitigation ☒ Less than significant/No impact

## RESOURCES - 4. Archaeological / Historical / Paleontological

### SETTING/IMPACTS

- Yes No Maybe
- a. ☐ ☐ ☒ Is the project site in or near an area containing known archaeological resources or containing features (drainage course, spring, knoll, rock outcroppings, or oak trees) which indicate potential archaeological sensitivity?
- Cultural resources are known in the area.
- b. ☐ ☒ ☐ Does the project site contain rock formations indicating potential paleontological resources?
- c. ☐ ☒ ☐ Does the project site contain known historic structures or sites?
- d. ☐ ☒ ☐ Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical or archaeological resource as defined in 15064.5?
- e. ☐ ☒ ☐ Would the project directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?
- f. ☐ ☐ ☐ Other factors? \_\_\_\_\_

### ☐ MITIGATION MEASURES / ☒ OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

☐ Lot Size      ☒ Project Design      ☐ Phase I Archaeology Report

Trail design will evaluate for impacts on cultural resources at the time of at the time of trail dedication or construction. No trail construction is proposed at this time

### CONCLUSION

Considering the above information, could the project leave a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on **archaeological, historical, or paleontological** resources?

☐ Potentially significant    ☐ Less than significant with project mitigation    ☒ Less than significant/No impact

## RESOURCES - 5. Mineral Resources

### SETTING/IMPACTS

Yes No Maybe

- a. ☐ ☒ ☐ Would the project result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?

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- b. ☐ ☒ ☐ Would the project result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource discovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?

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- c. ☐ ☐ ☐ Other factors? 

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### ☐ MITIGATION MEASURES / ☐ OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

☐ Lot Size ☐ Project Design

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### CONCLUSION

Considering the above information, could the project leave a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on **mineral** resources?

☐ Potentially significant ☐ Less than significant with project mitigation ☒ Less than significant/No impact

## RESOURCES - 6. Agriculture Resources

### SETTING/IMPACTS

Yes No Maybe

- a. ☐ ☒ ☐ Would the project convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?

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- b. ☐ ☒ ☐ Would the project conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?

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- c. ☐ ☒ ☐ Would the project involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use?

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- d. ☐ ☐ ☐ Other factors? 

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### ☐ MITIGATION MEASURES / ☐ OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

☐ Lot Size ☐ Project Design

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### CONCLUSION

Considering the above information, could the project leave a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on **agriculture** resources?

☐ Potentially significant ☐ Less than significant with project mitigation ☒ Less than significant/No impact



## RESOURCES - 7. Visual Qualities

### SETTING/IMPACTS

Yes No Maybe

- a. ☐ ☒ ☐ Is the project site substantially visible from or will it obstruct views along a scenic highway (as shown on the Scenic Highway Element), or is it located within a scenic corridor or will it otherwise impact the viewshed?

Scenic resources are known in the project area.

- b. ☐ ☒ ☐ Is the project substantially visible from or will it obstruct views from a regional riding or hiking trail?

Project proposes the approximate location of these trails.

- c. ☐ ☐ ☒ Is the project site located in an undeveloped or undisturbed area, which contains unique aesthetic features?

Much of the project area is currently undeveloped.

- d. ☐ ☒ ☐ Is the proposed use out-of-character in comparison to adjacent uses because of height, bulk, or other features?

- e. ☐ ☒ ☐ Is the project likely to create substantial sun shadow, light or glare problems?

- f. ☐ ☐ ☒ Other factors (e.g., grading or land form alteration):

There may be minimal grading to achieve trail grade standards.

### ☐ MITIGATION MEASURES / ☒ OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

☐ Lot Size

☒ Project Design

☐ Visual Report

Compatible Use

The trail design will consider potential impact on visual resources at the time of trail dedication or construction. No trail construction is proposed at this time.

### CONCLUSION

Considering the above information, could the project have a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on **scenic** qualities?

- ☐ Potentially significant    ☐ Less than significant with project mitigation    ☒ Less than significant/No impact

## SERVICES - 1. Traffic/Access

### SETTING/IMPACTS

- Yes No Maybe
- a. ☐ ☐ ☐ Does the project contain 25 dwelling units, or more and is it located in an area with known congestion problems (roadway or intersections)?  
NA
- b. ☐ ☒ ☐ Will the project result in any hazardous traffic conditions?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- c. ☐ ☒ ☐ Will the project result in parking problems with a subsequent impact on traffic conditions?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- d. ☐ ☐ ☐ Will inadequate access during an emergency (other than fire hazards) result in problems for emergency vehicles or residents/employees in the area?  
NA
- e. ☐ ☐ ☐ Will the congestion management program (CMP) Transportation Impact Analysis thresholds of 50 peak hour vehicles added by project traffic to a CMP highway system intersection or 150 peak hour trips added by project traffic to a mainline freeway link be exceeded?  
NA
- f. ☐ ☐ ☐ Would the project conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?  
NA
- g. ☐ ☐ ☐ Other factors? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### ☐ MITIGATION MEASURES / ☐ OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

☐ Project Design    ☐ Traffic Report    ☐ Consultation with Traffic & Lighting Division

\_\_\_\_\_

### CONCLUSION

Considering the above information, could the project have a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on the physical environment due to **traffic/access** factors?

☐ Potentially significant    ☐ Less than significant with project mitigation    ☒ Less than significant/No impact

## SERVICES - 2. Sewage Disposal

### SETTING/IMPACTS

- Yes No Maybe  
a. ☐ ☐ ☐ If served by a community sewage system, could the project create capacity problems at the treatment plant?

NA

- b. ☐ ☐ ☐ Could the project create capacity problems in the sewer lines serving the project site?

NA

- c. ☐ ☐ ☐ Other factors? \_\_\_\_\_

### STANDARD CODE REQUIREMENTS

☐ Sanitary Sewers and Industrial Waste Ordinance No. 6130

☐ Plumbing Code Ordinance No. 2269

☐ MITIGATION MEASURES / ☐ OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

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### CONCLUSION

Considering the above information, could the project have a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on the physical environment due to **sewage disposal** facilities?

☐ Potentially significant    ☐ Less than significant with project mitigation    ☒ Less than significant/No impact

### SERVICES - 3. Education

#### SETTING/IMPACTS

- Yes No Maybe
- a. ☐ ☐ ☐ Could the project create capacity problems at the district level?  
\_\_\_\_\_ *NA* \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☐ ☐ ☐ Could the project create capacity problems at individual schools which will serve the project site?  
\_\_\_\_\_ *NA* \_\_\_\_\_
- c. ☐ ☐ ☐ Could the project create student transportation problems?  
\_\_\_\_\_ *NA* \_\_\_\_\_
- d. ☐ ☐ ☐ Could the project create substantial library impacts due to increased population and demand?  
\_\_\_\_\_ *NA* \_\_\_\_\_
- e. ☐ ☐ ☐ Other factors? \_\_\_\_\_

#### ☐ MITIGATION MEASURES / ☐ OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

☐ Site Dedication      ☐ Government Code Section 65995      ☐ Library Facilities Mitigation Fee

\_\_\_\_\_

#### CONCLUSION

Considering the above information, could the project have a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) relative to **educational** facilities/services?

☐ Potentially significant    ☐ Less than significant with project mitigation    ☒ Less than significant/No impact

## SERVICES - 4. Fire/Sheriff Services

### SETTING/IMPACTS

Yes No Maybe

- a. ☐ ☒ ☐ Could the project create staffing or response time problems at the fire station or sheriff's substation serving the project site?

Trails do not increase population size.

- b. ☐ ☒ ☐ Are there any special fire or law enforcement problems associated with the project or the general area?

Trail alignment does not create special needs for the community.

- c. ☐ ☐ ☐ Other factors? \_\_\_\_\_

### ☐ MITIGATION MEASURES / ☒ OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

☐ Fire Mitigation Fees

Trail design will consider impacts on sheriff and fire services at the time of trail dedication or construction. No trail construction is proposed at this time.

### CONCLUSION

Considering the above information, could the project have a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) relative to **fire/sheriff** services?

☐ Potentially significant    ☐ Less than significant with project mitigation    ☒ Less than significant/No impact

## SERVICES - 5. Utilities/Other Services

### SETTING/IMPACTS

Yes No Maybe

- a. ☐ ☐ ☐ Is the project site in an area known to have an inadequate public water supply to meet domestic needs or to have an inadequate ground water supply and proposes water wells?

NA

- b. ☐ ☐ ☐ Is the project site in an area known to have an inadequate water supply and/or pressure to meet fire fighting needs?

NA

- c. ☐ ☐ ☐ Could the project create problems with providing utility services, such as electricity, gas, or propane?

NA

- d. ☐ ☐ ☐ Are there any other known service problem areas (e.g., solid waste)?

NA

- e. ☐ ☐ ☐ Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services or facilities (e.g., fire protection, police protection, schools, parks, roads)?

NA

- f. ☐ ☐ ☐ Other factors? \_\_\_\_\_

### STANDARD CODE REQUIREMENTS

☐ Plumbing Code Ordinance No. 2269 ☐ Water Code Ordinance No. 7834

☐ MITIGATION MEASURES / ☐ OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

☐ Lot Size ☐ Project Design

### CONCLUSION

Considering the above information, could the project have a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) relative to **utilities/services**?

☐ Potentially significant ☐ Less than significant with project mitigation ☒ Less than significant/No impact

## OTHER FACTORS - 1. General

### SETTING/IMPACTS

- Yes No Maybe
- a. ☐ ☐ ☐ Will the project result in an inefficient use of energy resources?  
\_\_\_\_\_ *NA* \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☐ ☐ ☐ Will the project result in a major change in the patterns, scale, or character of the general area or community?  
\_\_\_\_\_ *NA* \_\_\_\_\_
- c. ☐ ☐ ☐ Will the project result in a significant reduction in the amount of agricultural land?  
\_\_\_\_\_ *NA* \_\_\_\_\_
- d. ☐ ☐ ☐ Other factors? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### STANDARD CODE REQUIREMENTS

☐ State Administrative Code, Title 24, Part 5, T-20 (Energy Conservation)

☐ MITIGATION MEASURES / ☐ OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

☐ Lot size ☐ Project Design ☐ Compatible Use

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### CONCLUSION

Considering the above information, could the project have a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on the physical environment due to any of the above factors? \_\_\_\_\_ *No* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

☐ Potentially significant ☐ Less than significant with project mitigation ☒ Less than significant/No impact

## OTHER FACTORS - 2. Environmental Safety

### SETTING/IMPACTS

- Yes No Maybe
- a. ☐ ☐ ☐ Are any hazardous materials used, transported, produced, handled, or stored on-site?  
NA
- b. ☐ ☐ ☐ Are any pressurized tanks to be used or any hazardous wastes stored on-site?  
NA
- c. ☐ ☐ ☐ Are any residential units, schools, or hospitals located within 500 feet and potentially adversely affected?  
NA
- d. ☐ ☐ ☐ Have there been previous uses that indicate residual soil toxicity of the site or is the site located within two miles downstream of a known groundwater contamination source within the same watershed?  
NA
- e. ☐ ☐ ☐ Would the project create a significant hazard to the public or the environment involving the accidental release of hazardous materials into the environment?  
NA
- f. ☐ ☐ ☐ Would the project emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?  
NA
- g. ☐ ☒ ☐ Would the project be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would create a significant hazard to the public or environment?
- h. ☐ ☒ ☐ Would the project result in a safety hazard for people in a project area located within an airport land use plan, within two miles of a public or public use airport, or within the vicinity of a private airstrip?
- i. ☐ ☒ ☐ Would the project impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?
- j. ☐ ☐ ☐ Other factors? \_\_\_\_\_

☐ MITIGATION MEASURES / ☐ OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

☐ Toxic Clean up Plan

### CONCLUSION

Considering the above information, could the project have a significant impact relative to **public safety**?

☐ Potentially significant    ☐ Less than significant with project mitigation    ☒ Less than significant/No impact



### OTHER FACTORS - 3. Land Use

#### SETTING/IMPACTS

Yes No Maybe

- a. ☐ ☒ ☐ Can the project be found to be inconsistent with the plan designation(s) of the subject property?

Trails are consistent with the Area Plan land use designations

- b. ☐ ☒ ☐ Can the project be found to be inconsistent with the zoning designation of the subject property?

Trails are consistent with most zoning designations.

- c. ☐ ☒ ☐ Can the project be found to be inconsistent with the following applicable land use criteria:

☐ ☒ ☐ Hillside Management Criteria?

☐ ☒ ☐ SEA Conformance Criteria?

☐ ☐ ☐ Other? \_\_\_\_\_

- d. ☐ ☒ ☐ Would the project physically divide an established community?

- e. ☐ ☐ ☐ Other factors? \_\_\_\_\_

☐ MITIGATION MEASURES / ☐ OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

#### CONCLUSION

Considering the above information, could the project have a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on the physical environment due to **land use** factors?

☐ Potentially significant ☐ Less than significant with project mitigation ☒ Less than significant/No impact

## OTHER FACTORS - 4. Population/Housing/Employment/Recreation

### SETTING/IMPACTS

- Yes No Maybe
- a. ☐ ☐ ☐ Could the project cumulatively exceed official regional or local population projections?  
NA
- b. ☐ ☐ ☐ Could the project induce substantial direct or indirect growth in an area (e.g., through projects in an undeveloped area or extension of major infrastructure)?  
NA
- c. ☐ ☐ ☐ Could the project displace existing housing, especially affordable housing?  
NA
- d. ☐ ☐ ☐ Could the project result in a substantial job/housing imbalance or substantial increase in Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)?  
NA
- e. ☐ ☒ ☐ Could the project require new or expanded recreational facilities for future residents?  
The project would assist in providing new recreational facilities in the future.
- f. ☐ ☐ ☐ Would the project displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?  
NA
- g. ☐ ☐ ☐ Other factors? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

☐ MITIGATION MEASURES / ☐ OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### CONCLUSION

Considering the above information, could the project have a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on the physical environment due to **population, housing, employment, or recreational** factors?

☐ Potentially significant ☐ Less than significant with project mitigation ☒ Less than significant/No impact

## MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Based on this Initial Study, the following findings are made:

Yes   No   Maybe

- a. ☐ ☒ ☐ Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?
- 

- b. ☐ ☒ ☐ Does the project have possible environmental effects which are individually limited but cumulatively considerable? "Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of an individual project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.
- 

- c. ☐ ☒ ☐ Will the environmental effects of the project cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?
- 

## CONCLUSION

Considering the above information, could the project have a significant impact (individually or cumulatively) on the environment?

☐ Potentially significant   ☐ Less than significant with project mitigation   ☒ Less than significant/No impact

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
PLAN AMENDMENT NO. 2006-00001-(5)**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Regional Planning Commission of the County of Los Angeles has recommended approval of a proposed Plan Amendment that will amend the Trails Maps in the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan and the Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan.

**NOTICE IS ALSO HEREBY GIVEN** that a public hearing will be held before the Board of Supervisors, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California 90012 at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m. on \_\_\_\_\_ pursuant to Title 7 of the Government Code of the State of California (Planning and Zoning Law) for the purpose of hearing testimony relative to the adoption of the following amendments:

1. Proposed amendment to the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan pertaining to the adoption of a new Trails Map.
2. Proposed amendment to the Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan pertaining to the adoption of a new Trails Map.
3. Such other amendments that, in the opinion of the Board of Supervisors, should be considered at this time.

Written comments may be sent to the Executive Officer of the Board of Supervisors at the above address. If you do not understand this notice or need more information, please contact Mr. Mitch Glaser at (213) 974-6476.

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act and County Guidelines, a Negative Declaration has been prepared that shows that the proposed Plan Amendment will not have a significant effect on the environment.

**“ ADA ACCOMMODATIONS:** If you require reasonable accommodations or auxiliary aid and services such as material in alternate format or a sign language interpreter, please contact the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator at (213) 974-6488 (Voice) or (213) 617-2292 (TDD), with at least three business days notice. “

Si no entiende esta noticia o necesita mas información, por favor llame este numero: (213) 974-6425.

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SACHI A. HAMAI  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER-CLERK OF  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS